



ST. FAITH'S AND AYLSHAM
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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1963

RURAL DISTRICT OF ST. FAITH'S AND AYLSHAM

The
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Irene B.M. Green
M.D., B.S., D.P.H.)

together with

the

R E P O R T

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(H.S. Hawkins,
A.M.I.P.H.E., C.R.S.H.)

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S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health :

IRENE B.M. GREEN, M.D.,B.S.,D.P.H.

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and Inspector under Petroleum Acts:

H.S. HAWKINS, A.M.I.P.H.E.,C.R.S.H.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector:

W.R. FRYER, A.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Engineer and Surveyor:

R.H. COLVER, A.M.I.MUN.E.,A.M.I.P.H.E.

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E. PHILBIN, B.A.,M.R.S.H.

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Assistant Surveyor:

N.P.G. TUCKER (to 31.12.63)

Assistant Engineer and Surveyor:

J.E.H. NICHOLSON (from 10.6.63)

Building Inspector:

H. BOOTH

Surveying Assistants:

W.G. CHASTNEY, A.I.B.E.

R.N. BARRETT, M.R.S.H.,MUN.B.I.

Senior Clerk:

P.J. CHAPMAN (to 11.3.63)

E.G.H. MOBBS (from 11.3.63)

Clerical Staff:

A.J. LINCOLN

MISS P. MARTIN

D.G. REYNEL

T. O'BRIEN

MISS L. BALDWIN

MISS C. PHIPPS

A. HOLMES (from 28.10.63)

The
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(Irene B.M. Green, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.)
for the
RURAL DISTRICT OF ST. FAITH'S AND AYLSHAM
NORFOLK
for the year ending 31st December, 1963

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1963.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	.. .. .	93,005
Population (Census 1931)	.. .. .	25,648
Population (Census 1951)	.. .. .	37,629
Population (Census 1961)	.. .. .	46,003
Population (Estimated mid-1963)	.. .. .	48,400
Number of structurally separate dwellings (1931)	.. .. .	7,660
" " " " (1951)	.. .. .	10,798
" " " " (1961)	.. .. .	15,163
" " " " (1962)	.. .. .	15,975
" " " " (1963)	.. .. .	16,380
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1963	.. .. .	£1,421,356
Estimated Net Produce of Penny Rate	.. .. .	£5,750

The estimated mid-year population was 48,400, an increase of 1,510 since 1962. As there was an excess of 365 live births over deaths registered during the year, about 1,145 new residents must have moved into the district. This is confirmed by the increase of 405 in the number of inhabited houses, now 16,380 compared with 15,975 in 1962.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

I am indebted to the Norfolk Agricultural Station for the following account of the weather of 1963 :-

After a severe but dry winter which lasted until early March, the Spring and Summer months until September were mainly disappointing with duller and cooler conditions than average. Rainfall was slight in July but particularly excessive in August. The Autumn months were all drier than normal and especially so in December. Over the year, sunshine was far below average and as in 1962, rainfall was lacking and was almost 4 inches less than average.

The most remarkable kind of weather during the year was the intense cold, with snow and frost which lasted without improvement until the beginning of March. Local low temperature records were broken and the lowest recorded was - 15° C (5° F) on February 5th. The ground was frozen to a depth never anticipated when many water mains were laid with the result that supplies were cut off from any houses in the district.

The Summer was again very disappointing with a minimum of sunshine and excessive rainfall in the main holiday period of August. The middle of September had the year's best weather while the autumn months were drier than average but rather dull.

1963 might be described as the year in which the weather created the greatest amount of dislocation and inconvenience for everyone and failed to compensate for it with summer sunshine.

VITAL STATISTICS

Total Males Females					St. Faith's & Aylsham		England & Wales	
					1963	1962	1963	
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>								
Legitimate	940	469	471	)Birth rate)per 1,000 of)estimated)resident)population			
Illegitimate	27	13	14		19.9	18.8	18.2	
Total	967	482	485					
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>								
Legitimate	14	10	4	)Rate per)1,000 live)and still)births)			
Illegitimate	1	-	1		15.2	15.5	17.3	
Total	15	10	5					
<u>DEATHS</u>								
Total	575	275	300	)Crude death)rate per)1,000 of)estimated)resident)population	11.0	10.5	12.2
<u>INFANT DEATHS</u>								
Legitimate	14	5	9	)Infant)Mortality)rate per)1,000 live)births	14.4	4.5	20.9
Illegitimate	-	-	-					
Total	14	5	9					

Additional Statistics

				<u>St. Faith's & Aylsham</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Birth rate adjusted for age and sex	..	..	..	17.9	18.2
Death rate adjusted for age and sex	..	..	..	10.7	12.2
Infant Mortality rate (Infant deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	14.4	20.9
Neonatal Mortality rate (Infant deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	12.4	14.1
Early Neonatal Mortality rate (Infant deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	..	..	..	10.3	-
Legitimate Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	14.5	-
Illegitimate Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	-	-
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..	..	2.7%	6.9%
Maternal deaths (Deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)	..	..	..	Nil	-
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	..	..	..	Nil	-
Perinatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths (stillbirths and deaths of infants under 1 week of age)	..	..	..	25.4	29.0

The causes of death as supplied by the Registrar General are given in the following table :-

									<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	..						1	-	1
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..				-	-	-
3	Syphilitic Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	2	2
4	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	-	-
6	Meninococcal Infections	..	..	..	..				-	-	-
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	-	-
8	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	-	-
9	Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	..	..						2	-	2
10	Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	..	..	..					5	7	12
11	Malignant Neoplasm of Lung or Bronchus	..							18	4	22
12	Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	..	..	..					-	8	8
13	Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	..	..	..					-	5	5
14	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	..							26	20	46
15	Leukaemia & Aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	1	1
16	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..		1	-	1
17	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	..	..						32	44	76
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	..	..	..	..	..	..		70	41	111
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	..	..	..					4	3	7
20	Other Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..		25	63	88
21	Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..		9	12	21
22	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..		5	2	7
23	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..		19	28	47
24	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..		10	15	25
25	Other Disease of Respiratory System	..	..						3	2	5
26	Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	..	..	..	..				2	-	2
27	Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	..	..	..					2	1	3
28	Nephritis & Nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..			1	3	4
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	..	..			4	-	4
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	..	..	..					-	-	-
31	Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	..			2	6	8
32	Other Defined & Ill-Defined Disease	..	..						13	25	38
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	..	..			9	1	10
34	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..		2	3	5
35	Homicide & Operations of War	..	..	..	..	..			2	1	3
36	All Other Accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..		8	3	11
									<u>275</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>575</u>

DEATHS BY AGE GROUPS

	<u>Pre-School</u>		<u>School</u>	<u>Working Life</u>						<u>Pensionable</u>	
Age Groups	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	Over 75	Total
Totals	14	-	1	7	7	17	39	85	146	259	575

There were 940 live births and 575 deaths registered during the year, 15 stillbirths, 14 infant deaths but no maternal deaths associated with childbirth.

The adjusted birth rate was 17.9 compared with the national figure of 18.2 and the death rate similarly adjusted was 10.7 compared with 12.2 for England and Wales. The district is therefore gaining by birth at a slightly lower rate than the country as a whole but losing by death at a much slower rate.

The remarkable low figure for infant mortality i.e. 4.5 in 1962 has been exceeded this year but the figure of 14.4 is still very low and much less than the national rate of 20.9. The illegitimacy rate was again lower, being 2.7% compared with 6.9% for England and Wales.

These statistics show that those born in this rural district have an excellent chance of surviving the hazards of infancy and that those already living have a good prospect of a long life.

Infant Deaths

Ages at Death (Infants under 1 year)

									<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1st day	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4
1-3 days	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	6
1-4 weeks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
1 month	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
									<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>

Causes of Infant Deaths

Inevitable - 9

Congenital Defects - 8	Hydrocephalus	2
	Anencephalus	2
	Hyaline Membrane	1
	Congenital Heart Defect	<u>3</u>
		<u>8</u>

Prematurity 1

? Preventable - 5

Obstetric	1	Rupture of tentorium cerebelli
Acute Infection	1	Bronchopneumonia aged 3 days
Vascular Accident	1	Intra pulm. haemorrhage aged 3 days
Hypothermia	2	Cerebral Oedema aged 1 month
		Cerebral haemorrhage aged 1 day

It will be seen from the above table that 9 of the 14 infant deaths died from congenital defects and prematurity, conditions for which at present there is very little chance of prevention. The 5 deaths classified as possibly preventable were all but one at a very early stage of life, 3 days or less. The 2 cases of hypothermia, that is an excessive drop in the temperature of the body should have been preventable.

Summing up the infant mortality of 1963, most of these deaths were inevitable and occurred during the very vulnerable first few days of life. These figures demonstrate the usual high standard of infant care which prevails in this district.

Prematurity

Total number of infants born prematurely	.. .. .	38
Number of deaths of premature infants	.. .. .	1
Number of premature stillbirths	.. .. .	8

There were 38 infants born prematurely, the same number as last year and there were 8 premature stillbirths, one more than in 1962. Only one premature infant died, again demonstrating how well these tiny infants are now cared for.

Premature Deaths (between 1 and 40 years)

There were 20 deaths, 14 males and 6 females, registered between the ages of 1 and 40, one less than in 1962, from the following causes :-

Accidents (9) - 8 males and 1 female

Road	5	Males 17, 20, 20, 19, 31.
Gunshot	1	Male 22.
Asphyxia	1	Female 17 (Suicide)
Cricket ball	1	Male 14
Homicide	1	Male 31

Disease (11) - 6 males and 5 females

Malignant	3	Female 26 Ovarian tumour Female 29 Leukaemia Male 33 Head of Pancreas
Cardio Vascular	3	Male 35 Coronary occlusion Female 33 Subarachnoid haemorrhage Male 39 Hypertension - uraemia
Chest Conditions	4	Male 29 Asthma Female 25 Asthma Female 39 Bronchopneumonia Male 39 Bronchopneumonia with Epilepsy
Kidney Disease	1	Male 36 Pyelonephritis - Stricture.

Again nearly half these premature deaths were wholly avoidable being due to accidents and other violent causes. It should be noted that all but one of these violent deaths were males and all but 2 were under 23. The two exceptions were both aged 31, one a road fatality and the other due to homicide. There were 5 road accidents, all male.

The other 11 deaths in this age group were due to disease in various forms and occurred at a later age than those from violence. There were 6 males and 5 females, 4 of these were in their late twenties and 7 of them in their thirties and none were under 25. Malignancy, heart and circulatory and chest conditions were the main causes of these early deaths.

If violent causes could have been eliminated, particularly the hazard of road traffic, only half these deaths need have occurred.

Malignant Disease (Including Cancer)

There were 94 deaths from malignant disease, 9 more than last year and lung cancer accounted for 22 of these, compared with 15 in 1962, 18 male and only 4 female.

The ages at which lung cancer was fatal were as follows :-

<u>Age</u>	<u>45 - 54</u>	<u>55 - 64</u>	<u>65 - 74</u>	<u>75+</u>	<u>Total</u>
Males	1	9	8	-	18
Females	1	2	-	1	4

This table shows that of these 18 male deaths from lung cancer, 10 occurred during working life, at an age when these men were of most value to the community and had the heaviest family and business responsibilities.

During the last 8 years, 113 men have died from lung cancer, 66 of them during working life and the following table gives the figures for each year for comparison, those occurring during working life are given in brackets.

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Males	14(9)	17(7)	6(4)	15(10)	14(10)	14(9)	18(10)
Females	2(2)	3(0)	2(2)	1(0)	6 (5)	1(0)	4 (3)
	16(11)	20(7)	8(6)	16(10)	20(15)	15(9)	22(13)

The close association between heavy smoking and cancer of the lung has been demonstrated again by figures published in America and yet there is little apparent change in the smoking habits of the community. With so much other disease for which we still have to find a cause and cure, it seems doubly tragic that people should deliberately smoke themselves to death, having been warned by so many unassailable statistics. If sufferers, who have had a successful operation and sorrowing relatives who have ^{been} bereaved by a fatal case, would speak out amongst their friends and workmates, perhaps they would be believed and others would be warned in time.

On a less serious note, if "smokers cough" was regarded as a social misdemeanor and frowned upon by those who have to listen to it, perhaps the noise makers would be ostracized into giving their lung linings a rest from constant irritation, with resulting benefit to their health and expectation of life.

General

Heart and circulatory diseases were again the commonest cause of death (303) with 111 from coronary occlusion or thrombosis. Again, male deaths were much more numerous than female and occurred at an earlier age, 27 fatal "coronaries" being registered before the age of 65, 2 of them under 45.

Accidents caused 22 deaths, there were 5 suicides and 3 deaths from homicide.

Respiratory disease of all kinds was more fatal in 1963 and caused 84 deaths, 22 more than in 1962. There was an increase in influenza, pneumonia and bronchitis, no doubt due to the Arctic conditions during the winter months, but 86% of these deaths were over the age of 65, with the heaviest toll over the age of 75.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Age not known	0-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	1	7	28	7	-	-	-	-	43
Measles	21	192	206	489	40	7	4	-	-	959
Whooping Cough	1	5	3	6	6	1	2	-	-	24
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	5	2	9
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	2	7
Dysentery	3	8	5	38	12	3	11	3	1	84
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	1	2	6	-	-	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	9
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Encephalitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Totals:	25	210	223	563	66	17	33	8	6	1151

There were 1,151 cases of infectious disease notified during the year, 955 more than in 1962. The whole of this increase could be accounted for by the large epidemic of measles.

There was more whooping cough, scarlet fever and dysentery but much less food poisoning.

Measles

The measles epidemic started in February and continued until September with a peak of cases in June. A total of 959 cases were notified, over half of them in the 5-9 age group, with over 400 amongst children of pre-school age. There were 40 cases in later school age and 11 adult cases. A further group of cases were notified from the middle of November with a peak in the first week of December.

It was rather fortunate that the epidemic was at its height in the summer instead of in the bitter winter months of early 1963. This would account for the few serious complications and the absence of fatal cases. Three children had to be admitted to hospital, one aged 7 in October for pneumonia and two in December aged 3 and 8 for severe attacks of measles. All three made a complete recovery.

Whooping Cough

There were 24 cases of whooping cough notified compared with 15 last year. No real epidemic occurred but a few cases were notified each month from August to December. Only 9 of the 24 cases were under school age, the majority being between 5 and 14, with 3 adult cases. This distribution of infection may well be due to waning immunity in the later ages with more solid protection in the years immediately following vaccination which is usually carried out in the first year.

Scarlet Fever

There were 43 cases of scarlet fever notified during the year, the majority of them during early school life. The largest incidence was in February but a few cases occurred in nearly every month of the year. The parishes mainly affected were Hellesdon and Sprowston.

Diphtheria) No cases of either disease were reported during the
Polionyelitis) year.

Infective Gastro-Enteritis

All transmissible bowel infections are again being included under this heading. This year I have to report a large increase in dysentery and an equally striking decrease in food-poisoning.

Sonne Dysentery

There were 84 cases of sonne dysentery notified during the year compared with 36 in 1962 and a further number of contacts were found to be positive during routine investigations. Four definite outbreaks occurred at Frettenham, Cawston, with 2 at Hellesdon.

Frettenham Outbreak - January to March (10 cases)

The first group of cases were reported from Frettenham School on January 28th and routine investigations revealed that 10 out of 22 persons in 4 households were actually infected with sonne dysentery.

Many other cases of diarrhoea had occurred amongst the schoolchildren and staff but none of these gave positive results for dysentery. It was assumed that two infections were present, dysentery and a virus disease.

The dysentery cases were confined to one part of the parish amongst close neighbours and one of the households had a history of contact with visitors from another county who had had dysentery in the family.

The infection, apart from these 4 families, did not spread to the rest of the school and it is greatly to the credit of the teachers that such a good standard of toilet and general hygiene was maintained in spite of quite primitive facilities for hand-washing and hot water supply. The last case became negative in April and the outbreak was at an end.

Hellesdon Outbreak - March to June (15 cases)

In March and April, a small outbreak occurred at Hellesdon, 7 households being affected with a total of 15 cases. All these of school age attended Kinsale Avenue School and there were 6 adults and 3 pre-school children affected.

There was no general spread through the school and by the beginning of May, all but one case were closed. The last household was not clear of infection until June. Again, the staff of this very large school are to be commended for the high standard of toilet hygiene being maintained. Sonne dysentery is very easily transmitted from one child to another, particularly amongst the infants, and the excellent facilities for hand washing had obviously been used to good effect.

Cawston Outbreak - July to September (55 cases)

At the beginning of July, there was a large outbreak associated with Cawston School with a total of 55 cases in 41 households. Investigations showed that the first cases had probably occurred about Whitsuntide but had not been diagnosed as dysentery and had returned to school in an infectious condition. By the time the nature of the infection was realised, the whole school had become heavily infected with the largest number of cases amongst the youngest children.

Routine visiting of all absentees with complete investigation of clinical cases and their class and family contacts was followed by a total screening procedure for all children in attendance and staff. This soon made it possible to obtain a clear picture of the situation.

By the end of the term, no new cases were being discovered and all but 6 households were clear of infection by the beginning of September. The last cases cleared up by the end of the month. This very large outbreak caused an enormous amount of work to the staff of the public health department and the laboratory and it is very much regretted that earlier notification was not made. It might have been possible to exclude the first cases and so to avoid any spread of the disease through the school community. Standards of toilet hygiene do not seem to have been so good as in some other schools but no doubt this unfortunate outbreak will have provided a salutary lesson to all concerned.

Other Minor Outbreaks

A further small number of cases were notified from a Hellesdon school in July and in October, 7 cases occurred in several different parishes. It was very illuminating to see how spread of infection in a household differed from one case to another. In some, every occupant was infected while in others the infection stopped at the first case, no doubt illustrating the differing standards of toilet and general hygiene practised by the various families.

Food Poisoning

Only 7 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year and 2 contact carriers were found during investigations. Most of these were isolated cases with no connection with one another or a common source. Five were due to salmonella typhimurium and 2 to a rarer type, St. Paul. This latter organism is usually associated with pigs but in this incident, it was recovered from the turkey meat which had been eaten by the affected family, causing 2 clinical cases and 2 contact carriers. The oldest patient was over 70 and had to be admitted to hospital where he made a speedy recovery.

One of the cases of typhimurium was an old man of 86 who succumbed to the attack. All the other cases soon recovered clinically, although some of them continued to excrete the organism for many weeks in spite of repeated courses of treatment.

Epidemic (Virus) Vomiting

This disease, which is a common cause of outbreaks in schools, was again quite prevalent during 1963. Although small groups of cases occurred from time to time in other parishes, the schools which had the most definite outbreaks were :-

Hellesdon (Heather Avenue)	March
Gt. Witchingham	October
Weston Longville	) November
Cawston	
Hellesdon (Kinsale Avenue)	
Sprowston Infants	Throughout the year

As it can never be assumed that diarrhoea and vomiting are caused by a virus unless specimens have been examined bacteriologically from typical cases, all reports are followed up as a routine procedure. On more than one occasion it was found that some dysentery and virus vomiting were affecting the same school community.

In most schools, the outbreak was shortlived, lasting only a week or 10 days but in Sprowston Infants School for some unexplained reason, the cases went on happening week after week all through the year. It was decided therefore to carry out some comprehensive research with the co-operation of the virologists of the Public Health Laboratory Service. The project is designed to try to discover :-

- (1) the cause of the continued outbreaks.
- (2) the mode of spread and the duration of infectivity.

Attention has been paid to classroom ventilation and as adequate airflow appeared to reduce the room temperature below comfort standards, a request was made for an investigation of the methods of heating.

Immediate steps taken were to exclude all sufferers for 3 days following an attack and the emptying and airing of the classroom immediately after a child was sick in it. It does seem that these measures have reduced the numbers of cases somewhat and during the last 3 weeks of the December term there were only 52 cases, of which 14 occurred on the school premises.

It is proposed to carry on this research project during 1964 and it is hoped to be able to record some significant results in my next Annual Report. Already, there is one very suggestive finding, that is, if a child vomits in a classroom, there will be many more cases amongst the rest of the classmates, unless the room is immediately evacuated and ventilated after the incident. In one infant class, 19 cases occurred within 24 hours of a small child being sick. Since the evacuation procedure, this pattern of disease has not been seen. This strongly suggests that the virus is spray-borne and acts like an aerosol in carrying infection inside a confined space.

Up to the end of the year, the virologists had not reported any positive findings of an identifiable virus in either vomit or stool samples but as this examination is a very lengthy procedure, it may be some months before results are obtained.

Typhoid & Other Enteric Diseases

No case of typhoid or paratyphoid was notified during the year.

Prevention of Spread of Bowel Diseases

Apart from the possibly airborne virus infection, all bowel diseases are spread by infected faecal material getting into the mouth. The commonest vehicles are contaminated fingers unwashed, or improperly washed, after use of the closet.

If hand-washing could become an absolute routine habit before eating, before handling food and after using the closet, no large outbreak of bowel disease could occur. Freedom from this distressing illness is literally in the hands of the community.

Sewage contamination of water supplies is now, except on very rare occasions, a thing of the past although we have reason to suspect that some of our imported foodstuffs are occasionally infected, e.g. coconut and more recently, corned beef.

Prevention of Other Diseases

For the following diseases, there is an effective preventive vaccination procedure :-

Polionyelitis
Diphtheria

Whooping Cough
Smallpox

Tetanus
Tuberculosis

Incidence

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
5 - 14	-	1	-	-
35 - 44	1	-	-	-
45 - 54	2	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	2
	3	1	-	2

There were 6 new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year compared with 7 in 1962, 3 male and 1 female of the pulmonary type and two females suffering from the non-pulmonary type of the disease. All but one girl in her teens were over 35 and 2 were over 65 when notified.

Diagnosis

Apart from the cases sent to the Chest Clinic for X-ray by family doctors, the Mass Radiography Unit was not operating in this district during the year under review. Residents may have attended sessions outside the district but there is no means of ascertaining this, unless any were reported with positive findings. None were so reported in 1963.

Prevention

B.C.G. Vaccination

Heaf Testing and B.C.G. vaccinations were again offered to all children over 13 attending schools in the Area. The results were as follows :-

Total No. Eligible	777		
No. Tested	498	Acceptance rate	68.7% approximately
No. Positive	44	Positive rate	8.8% approximately
No. Vaccinated	418		

The acceptance rate was slightly lower than last year, 68.7% compared with 69.1%, but the percentage found positive was less than half the figure for 1962, being 8.8% compared with 19%. All brisk reactors were seen at the Chest Clinic and a few were kept under observation for a period. No serious case of active disease was discovered but one young girl was given a course of treatment while continuing in attendance at school. No source of her infection was ever found.

General Survey

It will be seen from the above tables that tuberculosis is becoming less of a serious public health problem every year. Fewer new cases are discovered, in spite of greatly improved methods of diagnosis and the availability of the Mass Radiography Unit. Modern treatment enables the early case to be treated at home and sometimes even at work and for the more advanced type of disease to render it rapidly non-infectious.

We cannot, however, afford to become complacent until we reach the time when no new case is notified throughout the year and the positive rate on Heaf Testing school leavers is reduced to nil.

ROAD ACCIDENTS

Through the courtesy of the Chief Constable of Norfolk, I am again able to give the following information about the road accidents which occurred in this district in 1963 :-

	<u>Fatal</u>		<u>Serious</u>		<u>Slight</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
Drivers	-	-	30	29	63	39	93	68
Passengers	-	1	24	30	58	67	82	98
Motor Cyclists	1	4	28	47	40	45	69	96
Pillion Passengers	2	-	4	4	12	10	18	14
Pedal Cyclists	1	2	16	18	24	40	41	60
Pedestrians	3	-	9	12	16	20	28	32
	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>331</u>	<u>368</u>

There were 37 fewer accidents causing injury on the roads of the district compared with 1962, but this is 24 more than in 1961. Fortunately, most of the decrease is seen in the figures for the seriously injured with a small reduction in those slightly hurt. Unhappily, there were 7 deaths as in 1962, one motor cyclist, 2 pillion passengers, 1 pedal cyclist and 3 pedestrians.

Motor drivers suffered more injuries in each category but none were killed, while fewer passengers were hurt. Motor cyclists had a better record, with only one death and less injury in each group. Pillion passengers, on the other hand, were less fortunate with 2 deaths and 4 more injured. Pedestrians had fewer total accidents but unfortunately 3 were fatal.

The position over the last six years is shown in the following figures for total accidents causing injury :-

<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
331	368	289	340	307	262

Children on the Roads

	<u>Fatal</u>	<u>Serious</u>	<u>Slight</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pedestrians (Under 15)	-	5	6	11
Pedal Cyclists (Under 15)	-	3	8	11
	<u>-</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>22</u>

It will be seen that children had six fewer accidents on the roads although eight were seriously injured, the same number as last year. Accidents to young cyclists were much less and there was one less child pedestrian hurt. There were no fatal accidents to children during the year.

It would seem that lessons in road safety, the testing of cycles for roadworthiness and kerb drill in schools is having a beneficial effect in reducing the hazards of the road amongst children. We cannot be satisfied however, until no child is injured on our roads. It does not depend upon the children alone unfortunately, as all road users have an essential duty to see that children are seen and not hurt. Those in charge of young children should certainly see that they are not playing unattended on busy roads but drivers of vehicles could use a little more caution in being prepared for children to make a foolish action or decision when near moving traffic. These are our children and we should all take some responsibility for their safety.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949

No action was necessary under these Regulations during the year.

Anthrax Order, 1938

Only one case of confirmed anthrax was reported during the year. A cow was found dead in a stream and unfortunately was not suspected of being anthrax until after it had been cut in a knackers yard. Routine disinfection was carried out by the Diseases of Animals Officer.

Anthrax Conference (1962)

Further to the account of the County Anthrax Conference given in my 1962 Report, there have been other developments during 1963 :-

(1) The Divisional Veterinary Officer undertook to discuss anthrax with all the principals of the veterinary practices in the County.

(2) The County Medical Officer agreed to circularise all general practitioners in the County about the treatment of human contacts of anthrax.

(3) The Chief Constable agreed to issue detailed instructions to all police officers who might have to act as Diseases of Animals Officers, at the same time advising them from whom they should seek advice in any case of difficulty.

One expert whom they might consult was the District Public Health Inspector, but it was made clear that any advice given by the Inspector would not involve his authority in any claim whatever. The ultimate and sole responsibility of deciding what should be done, would be that of the police officer acting for the County Council.

This Conference and its findings have been widely reported in agricultural and veterinary journals and there is no doubt that it ventilated a very important problem.

Cystercercus Bovis

The incidence of cystercercus bovis found during meat inspection in the last 6 years is shown below :-

	<u>Adult Bovine Animals Inspected</u>	<u>No. affected with C.B.</u>	<u>Percentage found to be infected</u>
1958	6606	128	1.94
1959	6096	84	1.39
1960	6569	86	1.31
1961	8779	128	1.46
1962	8698	130	1.49
1963	9546	70	0.73

HOUSING

<u>Waiting List</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>
Total applications at 31st December (including Slum Clearance)	668	606	603	593	573

Analysis of General Waiting List

(i) Applicants sharing accommodation	137	141	132	126	107
Others	435	411	377	338	363
(ii) Size of Family					
2 or less children	513	499	457	423	422
3 or more children	59	53	52	41	48
(iii) Occupation of Family					
Agricultural Workers	99	111	89	82	97
Others	473	441	420	382	373

Slum Clearance Programme

Local Authority Houses

Position at 31st December :-

Pre-War	564	564	564	564	564
Post-War	1367	1344	1286	1253	1227
Flats	8	-	-	-	-
	<u>1939</u>	<u>1908</u>	<u>1850</u>	<u>1817</u>	<u>1791</u>

<u>Total Houses Completed During Year</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>
Local Authority Dwellings	31	58	33	26	71
Private Dwellings	479	510	518	493	425

The above survey of the housing position shows that a total of 557 units of accommodation became available in the district during the year, made up of 479 new private dwellings, thirty-one built by the Council and 47 casual vacancies in existing council property. There is, of course, no means of assessing how much other privately owned property changed occupiers in the same period.

Against this available accommodation must be viewed the number of new applicants for a council dwelling, 188 compared with 172 in 1962, making a total on the waiting list of 668 families including the 96 to be re-housed from slum clearance property. There are therefore 668 demands for accommodation and last year 78 units became available to satisfy them.

It is difficult to understand the sense of accepting new applicants at this rate if as shown by the above speed of progress many years must elapse before half of these people can hope to be re-housed. Special concern must be expressed for the 137 applicants still sharing accommodation and for the 96 living under slum conditions of housing.

I very much hope that some change of national and local policy will enable this waiting-list of the would-be council tenants to be reduced at a much greater rate than in recent years as satisfactory housing is the linch pin of good family life.

WATER SUPPLY

A full account of the water supply of the district is given in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector with details of work completed and begun in 1963.

Frozen Mains

During the Arctic spell of weather in the first quarter of the year, many of the mains were frozen and remained so for several weeks. Alternative supplies were arranged by the provision of standpipes wherever the mains were free while neighbours who still had a supply helped those without it. Plastic buckets being carried by all types of people was a common sight as the frost was quite indiscriminate in its interference with supplies. Houses with two bathrooms were as dry as cottages with a tap in the yard. Indeed, "You never miss the water till the mains freeze up!" was a very apt current phrase.

Fluoride Content of Water

Chemical analysis of local water supplies in the district has now been completed with regard to fluoride content with the following results (in parts per million) :-

			<u>Population Served</u>
Salle Bore	0.25)	
Lenwade	0.3)	
Foulshan	0.05)	
Honingham	0.15	)	Councils Area
Felthorpe	0.05	)	of Supply 7,500
Wood Dalling	0.05)	
Oulton	0.6)	
Norwich Corporation Supply	0.15		41,000
Optimum Amount for tooth protection	1.0		

It will be seen that the Lenwade, Salle and Oulton bores give the highest amount of fluoride but even these have only a quarter to two thirds of the optimum recommended for sound tooth construction. The Honingham bore and Norwich Corporation supply are the next least defective waters with about a sixth of the required amount, whilst at Foulshan, Wood Dalling and Felthorpe the fluoride content is very low indeed and for the purpose of tooth protection almost negligible.

SEWERAGE

An account of the sewerage schemes already in operation and those planned for future construction will be found in the report of the Surveyor.

Since the post-war Water & Sewerage Act, 1946, the main sewerage work has been chiefly concerned with the fringe parishes, the towns of Aylshan and Reepham. Housing sites have had to be provided with small treatment works or cesspools to comply with Ministry Regulations but the vast majority of parishes have not yet had main schemes put into operation.

With the recent enormous increase in private building in almost every sizeable parish, it is unfortunate that the modern amenity of main sewerage is not available. The alternative cesspool system may not prove satisfactory in some subsoils, but there are unfortunate people used to town facilities, who find that cesspool emptying becomes quite a charge on the house. In some cases, the temptation to get rid of cesspool contents by other means proves irresistible and they resort to pumping out on to gardens or via a clandestine trench to the nearest watercourse. Both these proceedings are to be deplored on public health grounds and the obvious remedy is the early provision of main sewerage in all parishes of reasonable size.

The parishes of Horsford, Drayton, Coltishall and Foulshan are all in urgent need of schemes for sewage disposal with Rackheath, Salhouse, St. Faith's, Spixworth and Taverham not far behind. Cesspool emptying, however, is not anticipated with pleasure by either the householder concerned nor his neighbours and the sooner it is cut down to a minimum the better.

CONFERENCES

I attended the following Conferences during the year on behalf of the Council :-

January 24th	Central Council for Health Education - London - (Fluoridation)
May 8th	Norfolk County Council - Norwich - (Safety on the Broads)
October 10th & 11th	Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents - London - (Home Safety) (Water Safety)

Comment on Water Safety (local activities)

Following a series of informal meetings between the Medical Officers of Health of the districts most concerned with the Broads and the sea coast which were held in 1962, in January 1963 the final meeting was attended by a representative of the boat hirers and certain recommendations were agreed upon :-

(1) A plaque would be displayed in a prominent position in all boats let for hire, showing in diagrammatic form the method of mouth to mouth resuscitation.

(2) Life jackets would be available for all members of the hiring party - although of course, there was no way of insisting upon them being constantly worn.

(3) Booklets on water safety would be available at all boatyards.

(4) The phrase "You will enjoy your holiday more if you can swim" was to be included somewhere in the boat-hirers literature sent out to clients.

This outcome was considered to be a very satisfactory result of our informal meetings and it was felt that a Conference with wider aims was the next step to be taken.

The Norfolk County Council agreed to sponsor the meeting on Safety on the Broads reported above and this was attended by a wide variety of delegates from local authorities, police, coastguards, swimming and boating organisations, St. John, Red Cross and many other voluntary bodies.

It was agreed that a local Water Safety Committee should be set up and at a meeting held at Norwich City Hall in November, a small steering Committee was elected to arrange for a large comprehensive local Conference on Water Safety to be held in 1964. The results of this Conference and subsequent activities concerned with Water Safety will be given in my next Annual Report.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Food Hygiene Lectures

A course of lectures on Food Hygiene was given by one of the District Public Health Inspectors, Mr. Palmer, to a group of St. John cadets at Sprowston. Although all food shops in the area were visited and invited to attend the course or send their staff, in fact none did attend which was much to be regretted.

The examination was taken by the Medical Officer of Health and the majority of the candidates passed, having showed a quite reasonable grasp of the main principles of the subject. The lecturer is certainly to be congratulated on his efficiency.

Other Activities

Leaflets and verbal instruction particularly with regard to food handling and toilet hygiene have been given during the various dysentery and other outbreaks of bowel diseases. Various posters supplied by the Central Council for Health Education and the Ministry of Health have been displayed in prominent positions in the Council's offices and in various places in the district.

POISONOUS CHEMICALS ON THE FARM

During July, a general practitioner reported a case of possible poisoning from the use of chemicals on farmland and the incident was fully investigated by the appropriate officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, whose responsibility it is. Although no proceedings were instituted, the farmer concerned was warned of the dangers to the health of those living in the neighbourhood of fields being sprayed with poisonous chemicals and advised as to precautions to be taken to avoid future trouble.

The wind on the day in question was too strong for safe spraying and was blowing in the direction of the houses and gardens of those suffering from ill effects. Two people had quite transitory symptoms but one woman was quite ill for a few days. The chemical was an organo-phosphorous compound being used on sugar beet.

An excellent Ministry of Health booklet covering all the poisonous substances used in agriculture giving symptoms, antidotes and treatment had been sent to all general practitioners in the County but as these seem to have been mislaid in some cases, the Clerk to the Executive Council was asked to send them out again.

The patient most affected made a complete recovery and no permanent ill-effects have been reported.

SOCIAL HEALTH

The Elderly

Aylshan	Friendship Club, Cawston Road	Friday	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Buxton & Lanas	Village Hall	Thursday (Alternate)	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Old Catton	Parish Hall	1st & 3rd Thursdays	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Cawston	Memorial Institute	Friday (Alternate)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Coltishall	Central Hall	Thursday	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Drayton	Village Hall	Wednesday (Fortnightly)	3.00 - 5.00 p.m.
St. Faith's	Church Hall	2nd & 4th Wednesdays	3.00 - 5.00 p.m.
Foulsham	Frost Hall	Friday	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Hainford	Village Hall	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Hellesdon	Community Centre	Friday	3.00 - 5.00 p.m.
Horsford	Village Hall	Thursday	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Marsham	Reading Room, High Street	Tuesday	2.45 - 5.00 p.m.
Oulton	Village Hall	Thursday (Alternate)	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Reepham	Own Hall	Friday	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Salhouse	Women's Institute Hut	Thursday (except 2nd Thursday in month)	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Spixworth	Social Hall	Wednesday (1st & 3rd in month except August)	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Sprowston	Club Room, Recreation Ground Road	Tuesday Each afternoon	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Taverham	Village Hall	Tuesday (Fortnightly)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Gt. Witchingham	Memorial Hall	4th Thursday in month	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Wroxham	Parish Hall	Tuesday (alternate)	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.

No new Old People's Clubs were opened in 1963, but the existing 20 continued to flourish and to render good service to the older members of the community in the various parishes. The usual round of parties, outings, pantomime visits and holidays made life for the elderly club members bright and full of interest, as well as the regular club meetings. Still more enterprising holiday jaunts were arranged by the Secretary of the Norfolk Old People's Welfare Committee and several groups spent happy weeks at Ostend with voluntary helpers to look after them, while the second year of the Caister Holiday Camp was a further resounding success for hundreds of old folk who preferred to holiday in England.

One new and very welcome idea put forward at the Annual Conference was that existing club committees should turn themselves into welfare committees and so accept responsibility for voluntary service to all the old people in their parish, whether club members or not. This should cover the needs of the infirm and the bedridden who tend to be forgotten because they are confined to their homes, and in time may well bring to light gaps in our statutory provision for such people which could be reported to the authority concerned. Stories of lonely and neglected old people should soon be a thing of the past.

The Council's grouped homes at Aylsham continued to provide that sheltered environment which is such an excellent halfway house between complete independence and life in a hostel. More of such homes in other parishes would be of great benefit to the less active elderly.

Altogether, the lot of the senior members of the community has been improved out of all recognition in recent years, specially in a social sense. In fact, to those about to retire in other less favoured spots, a move to Norfolk and to this district in particular, would ensure that the last years of life were at least as interesting and full of activity as those of their youth and middle age. The old people here do not stagnate, they live.

The Disabled

The voluntary organisations concerned with the disabled continued to provide social activities throughout the year such as outings, Christmas dinners, garden parties and home visiting. The District Committee of the Norfolk Association for the Care of the Handicapped and British Red Cross Society are both very active in the district and the sizeable group of handicapped people that they serve have every reason to be grateful to them.

Many disabled from this district attended Gorleston Holiday Camp for a week in September and there they joined over 300 other handicapped people from all parts of England in a record week of varied entertainment.

It is not a happy thing to be disabled, specially in early life, but here again the devoted work of voluntary helpers does much to make such misfortune less unpleasant.

General Comment

Again, I should like to pay a well-deserved tribute to the selfless devotion of so many voluntary workers in these two, and other, fields of work. The community owes much to those who see the needs of others and quietly set about supplying them. Voluntary Service is one of the wonders and glories of our country and this rural district worthily upholds the national standard.

COUNTY SERVICES

The following is a complete list of Infant Welfare Centres and distribution points for National Welfare Foods :-

COUNTY SERVICES

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Where held</u>	<u>Day of Month</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Address from where National Welfare Foods are obtainable (Monday to Friday unless otherwise stated)</u>
Aylsham	Ian Sears Clinic	First Friday every month	2 - 4	Mr. G.R. Oke, 14, Market Place. Messrs. Page Ltd., Market Place.
*Buxton	Village Hall	Third Tuesday every month	2 - 4	
*Cawston	Memorial Institute	First Tuesday every month	2 - 4	Post Office Stores
Old Catton	Parish Hall	Second and Last Wednesday	2 - 4	
*Coltishall	Church Room	Second Tuesday every month	2 - 4	Messrs. Roys Ltd. The Stores.
*Drayton	Village Hall	Last Monday every month	2 - 4	Mr. Squire, The Stores.
Feltherpe				Messrs. Carter & Potter, Post Office Stores.
*Foulsham	Frost Hall	Last Wednesday every month	2 - 4	Mr. Hamilton, The Stores. Nurse Bryan, Guist Road.
*Hainford	Parish Hall	First Wednesday every month	2 - 4	Post Office Stores.
Hellesdon	Community Centre, Middleton Lane	Every Monday Doctor attends 1st & 3rd Mondays	2 - 4	Mr. Youngman, 79, Keephan Road. Mr. Claybour, Drayton Wood Stores.
Hevingham				Mr. Anstee, Town Street. Tuesday 2 - 5 p.m.
*Horsham St. Faith	Mission Room	Last Thursday every month	2 - 4	Mrs. Williamson, Swan Street.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Where held</u>	<u>Day of month</u>	<u>Time</u>	Address from where National Welfare Foods are obtainable (Monday to Friday unless otherwise stated)
*Horsford	Parish Hall	Second Thursday every month	2 - 4	Mrs. Annison, The Stores.
*Rackheath	Village Hall	Second Thursday every month	2 - 4	Mrs. Willson, Bernard Close Stores.
*Reepham	Bircham Institute	Second Friday every month	2 - 4	Mrs. Hardiment, The Stores, Market Place.
Salhouse	Village Hall	Last Wednesday every month	2 - 4	
Spixworth	Social Hall	Second Wednesday every month	2 - 4	Mr. Burrows, 102, Crostwick Lane. Mrs. Giles, The Stores, Park Road.
Sprowston	St. Cuthbert's Church Hall	Every Friday Doctor attends 1st & 3rd Fridays	2 - 4	Mr. Grigg, 199, Wroxham Road. Mr. Chandler, Mayfair Stores, Mousehold Lane. Mr. Dunham, Linacre Avenue.
Swannington				
Taverham	Village Hall	First Thursday Third Wednesday	2 - 4	Mr. Courtney, 297, Fakenham Road.
*Weston Longville	Village Hall	Third Friday	2 - 4	
Gt. Witchingham				Mr. Ellis, Post Office. Messrs. Aldous & Clapham, Bridge Stores, Lenwade.
Wroxham				Messrs. Roys Ltd.

* Denotes Centre where a Medical Officer attends only occasionally.

GENERAL WELFARE SERVICES

The County Welfare Officers continue to provide general services throughout the district.

In addition to the Headquarters at :-

Local Health Office, Area 4,
Aspland Road,
Norwich, Norfolk, NOR 19S.

there is the following contact point where members of the public can obtain advice :-

Birchams Institute, Reepham.
(Wednesday afternoons, 3.30 - 4.00 p.m.)

GENERAL SURVEY

The health of the district was satisfactory during the year.

The birth rate though lower was only just below, while the death rate, though a little higher, was much below the national rate.

The Arctic weather did not affect the infant mortality rate, which remained very low, but deaths from respiratory disease in the very old showed a significant increase.

Infectious disease was more prevalent with a regrettable rise in cases of dysentery.

Road accidents showed a slight relative decrease but were still far too numerous, causing deaths and much serious injury.

House building was mainly by private enterprise and the Council's 31 new houses made little impression on the lengthening waiting list.

Better prospects for water supply and sewerage of the larger parishes can be reported but it is still regrettable that this work was not in hand several years ago.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and the staff for their willing and efficient co-operation. In particular, I should like to pay a special tribute to the retiring Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Hawkins, who has made such a notable contribution to the work of the Department and to the last 17 of my Annual Reports.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) IRENE B.M. GREEN

Medical Officer of Health.

The
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
(H.S. Hawkins A.M.I.P.H.E., C.R.S.H.)
for the year 1963

- - - - -

I have the honour of presenting the following report :-

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Inspections under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	496
Inspections under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	3259
Visits in connection with Keeping Animals	...	...	...	54
Inspections of Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	263
Visits to Infectious Disease cases	...	...	...	2033
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	1
Visits in connection with Rats and Mice	...	...	...	8
Inspection of Meat Shops	...	...	...	94
Visits in connection with Unsound Food	...	...	...	61
Inspections of Bakehouse with Power	...	...	...	6
Inspections of Bakehouse without Power	...	...	...	4
Inspections of Provision Shops	...	...	...	106
Inspections of Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	43
Inspections of Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	32
Inspections of Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	20
Other Inspections under Food Hygiene Regulations	...	...	...	196
Inspections of Public Houses	...	...	...	22
Inspections under Shop Acts	...	...	...	27
Inspections of Factories - With Power	...	...	...	101
Inspection of Factories - Without Power	...	...	...	243
Visits in connection with Scavenging	...	...	...	468
Visits in connection with Sewers and Water Supplies	...	...	...	1773
Inspections of Public Conveniences	...	...	...	8
Visits for taking samples of Water	...	...	...	266
Inspections under Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	169
Other Visits, interviewing Owners etc	...	...	...	1056
Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	1411
Inspections under Building Byelaws	...	...	...	6500
Visits under Clean Air Act	...	...	...	1
Visits to Mobile Shops	...	...	...	4
Total				18725

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are six slaughterhouses licenced and in use in the district. During the year 37 licences were issued to Slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Very important Regulations came into operation on 1st October which placed upon Local Authorities the obligation to carry out 100 per cent inspections of all the animals slaughtered. Realising that some authorities might have difficulty in meeting this obligation the Regulations provide that for a limited period of two years it could be relaxed, but the authority must notify the Ministry of the inability to inspect any carcase. It was decided to conform with the requirements forthwith and to appoint additional staff consisting of an additional Public Health Inspector and two authorised Meat Inspectors, and in the meantime the existing staff to do all that was possible to effect this. Unfortunately it was not possible to obtain additional staff but in spite of this the full 100 per cent inspection was carried out. It might be thought there is no reason why this successful operation should not continue, but it must be emphasised that more time had to be devoted to this branch of the work, and which included further sacrifice of the Inspector's already limited leisure time. This duty was given priority to the detriment of other work, and this cannot continue indefinitely. The stress of working long hours together with the knowledge that necessary duties are being neglected does not help in maintaining a happy staff or to retain it. Additional staff is therefore essential, but the very poor response to advertisements to obtain it leads one to the conclusion that there is insufficient qualified staff throughout the whole country. One also wonders whether the demands for working in the early mornings, late evenings and week-ends will attract the needed recruits particularly when the general trend is for shorter hours, a five day week and free week-ends. It is claimed it would be unreasonable to control the days and hours of slaughter, but there appears to be no reason why the work should not be confined to reasonable working hours. It may well be that if full inspection is to be maintained it will prove to be essential for some such control to be introduced, and with modern methods of refrigeration this should not prove to be impossible.

From my knowledge of my colleagues they keenly desire to carry out the 100 per cent inspection and they would appreciate some constructive assistance to enable them to do this and overcome this difficulty of inadequate staff with demands for excessive and irregular working hours.

For comparison I set out the figures for animals slaughtered and inspected during the year together with those for the previous two years.

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
Total number of carcasses slaughtered	78562	79212	95724
Number of carcasses inspected	68678 87.42%	63458 80.11%	72297 75.53%
Number of carcasses not inspected	9884 12.58%	15754 19.89%	23427 24.47%
Weight of Meat Condemned	51 tons 1 cwt	57 tons	55 tons 8 cwt
Number of overtime hours worked by the Inspectors	1377½	1194½	1599½

The following table gives particulars of the carcasses inspected with those found to be affected with disease :-

	<u>Cattle excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number killed	9239	1605	6243	13890	47585
Number inspected	8047	1499	4425	13011	41696
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	21	30	32	68
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2032	776	55	999	8155
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.28%	53.17%	1.9%	7.92%	19.72%
<u>Tuberculosis only :-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	10	1	-	-	374
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.12%	.06%	-	-	.88%

<u>Cysticercosis</u>	<u>Cattle excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	69	1	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	69	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Percentage	.87%	.07%	-	-	-

FOOD PREMISES

The following gives particulars of other foods condemned at shops and other premises during the year :-

Tins of Meat	...	...	...	...	...	256
Tins of Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	608
Tins of Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	1022
Tins of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	172
Tins of Soup	...	...	...	...	...	104
Tins of Fish	...	...	...	...	...	95
Tins of Rice	...	...	...	...	...	38
Tins of Fruit Juice	...	...	...	...	...	61
Tins of Jam	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	503 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	101 lbs.
Frozen Fish	...	...	...	...	...	54 lbs.

The disposal of all condemned meat is effected by arrangements with a fat rendering firm, and all other condemned foods are buried on the Council's Refuse Tip.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES

General Shops - including

Greengrocers, Butchers, Confectioners,
Fish and Game, Dairies and Bakehouses 234

Establishments providing Cooked Foods -

Fried Fish, Hotels, Restaurants, Cafes 36

Public Houses 79

Establishments serving Ice Cream 115

The above does not include Egg Packing Stations, Slaughterhouses,
Factory and School Canteens, Wholesalers or Clubs.

ICE CREAM

During the year two samples of Ice Cream were taken from the
one Manufacturer in the District, who produces ice cream for his
own Grocery Shop during the Summer months. The results of these
samples proved to be Grade I.

One sample was also taken of J. Lyons and Co. Ice Cream at a
shop at Sprowston, it also was Grade I.

HOUSING

Slum Clearance

The Public Health (Slum Clearance and Improvement Grants) Committee inspected 67 houses in the parishes of Stratton Strawless, Hevingham, Wood Dalling and Heydon.

Summary of results of work by the Sub-Committee -

Number of houses in respect of which Demolition	
Orders were made	49
Number of houses in respect of which Closing	
Orders were made	3
Number of houses in respect of which	
undertakings not to relet were accepted	5
Number of houses in respect of which	
undertakings to repair were accepted	-
Number of houses included in proposed	
Clearance Areas	-
Number of houses still under consideration	
at the end of the year	53
Number of houses vacated during the year	33
Number of houses demolished during the year	66
Number of Demolition Orders rescinded after	
houses made fit	-
Number of houses closed during the year	11

At the end of the year 125 condemned houses were still occupied.

Summary of action taken etc. during the last 9 years

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. No. of houses inspected by Sub-Committee	50	111	183	82	59	59	44	36	58	682
2. Houses considered at Time & Place Meeting	61	110	103	82	87	88	39	59	61	690
3. Houses considered as suitable for Clearance Area	-	-	44	53	-	13	-	-	-	110
4. Demolition Orders made	25	44	59	46	58	53	28	50	49	412
5. Closing Orders made	2	-	2	10	-	6	8	8	3	39
6. Undertaking to repair accepted	6	4	11	34	22	9	1	-	-	87
7. Undertakings not to relet accepted	15	8	16	12	5	6	2	-	5	69
8. Total number of houses on which decisions made	48	56	132	155	85	87	39	58	57	717
9. Houses vacated	3	24	46	44	94	58	60	76	33	438
10. Houses repaired as a result of an undertaking	-	3	3	6	8	23	4	17	-	64
11. Houses demolished after service of D.O.	-	16	26	12	30	72	61	63	66	346
12. Unfit houses demolished voluntarily	2	11	-	5	-	-	-	13	-	31
13. Demolition Orders quashed	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
14. Demolition Orders rescinded	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3
15. Houses closed	-	9	5	3	4	2	-	36	11	70
16. Total number of houses finally dealt with	2	40	34	26	42	97	67	130	77	515

RENT ACT, 1957

The following are particulars of applications made and certificates and notices issued during the year :-

Number of applications made by tenants for a Certificate of Disrepair	6
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Number of Notices sent by the Council to Landlords of the Council's proposal to issue a certificate of disrepair	4
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Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	1
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IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During the year the Council approved proposals for Discretionary Grants in respect of 27 houses and the promised grants amounted to £8,600. Applications in respect of only 3 houses were refused as the proposals did not meet the requirements. Work at 24 houses was completed during the year and the amount of grants paid was £6,184.

Approval was given for Standard Grants in respect of 89 houses and the maximum amount of grants that could be paid was £12,125. Applications in respect of 3 were not approved as they did not comply with the requirements, but were later given Discretionary Grants, and applications in respect of 3 were withdrawn. Work at 57 houses was completed and the amount of grants paid was £6,560.

NEW HOUSES

During the year 499 houses including 30 Council Houses were completed, and at the end of the year 434 were in course of erection.

CARAVAN SITES & CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During the year 24 Site Licences and 32 renewals were issued under the above Act.

SCAVENGING

This service was continued satisfactorily without any but very minor complaints throughout the year, and reflects the conscientious work of the 36 men engaged in it.

House Refuse

Collections are made weekly in 21 parishes and fortnightly in the remaining 27. The volume collected is increasing rapidly being 66,410 cubic yards for the year, compared with 60,700 for the year 1962, and 57,000 during the year 1961.

Night Soil

Night soil collection covers the whole of the district where needed with the exception of a small number of isolated houses. As a result of conversions where sewers have been provided the volume for collection is reducing. The amount collected during the year was 721,500 gallons compared with 771,500 gallons in the previous year.

Cesspool Emptying

There was an increase in the demand for this service during the year and confirms my remarks in my report for the year 1961, when I stated I anticipated there would be a sharp fall in the demand as a result of the provision of sewers but that this fall would be only of a temporary nature, and would slowly rise again.

Below are particulars of the number of loads removed from cesspools over the years from 1954 to 1963 :-

1954	7,767 loads	1959	9,484 loads
1955	8,507 loads	1960	11,304 loads
1956	8,592 loads	1961	11,268 loads
1957	9,184 loads	1962	8,808 loads
1958	9,199 loads	1963	9,904 loads

Vehicles

The Council's fleet consists of the following :-

9 Refuse Collecting Vehicles	...	...	7 Diesel & 2 Petrol driven
5 Night Soil Collecting Vehicles	...	...	all Petrol driven
6 Cesspool Emptying Vehicles	...	...	3 Diesel & 3 Petrol driven
1 Five Ton Truck	...	...	Diesel driven
1 Fiat Crawler Digger	...	...	Diesel driven
4 Water & Sewerage Maintenance Vehicles	...	...	Petrol driven
1 Rodent Operator's Vehicle	...	...	Petrol driven

Salvage

There was still a poor market for salvage and only $14\frac{1}{4}$ tons were sold for £148. 4. 9d.

SEWERAGE

In the town of Aylsham a short length of sewer was laid in the Buxton Road which was excluded by the Ministry from the original Scheme. This was needed to serve new properties which had since then been erected, and also to ensure that projected new development could be provided.

The final stage sewerage in the fringe parishes of Catton, Hellesdon and Sprowston was practically completed by the end of the year.

Work was begun on Stage II of the sewerage in the town of Reepham.

I am pleased to report the continued ready response by owners to connect their properties to the sewer as soon as they are provided.

The following additional connections to the sewers were made during the year :-

Aylsham	15
Catton	473
Hellesdon	63
Reepham	2
Sprowston	70

WATER SUPPLY

No case of shortage of water was reported or discovered during the year. However early in the year severe frosts caused the freezing of many underground service pipes and some houses were deprived of water for as long as six weeks. Fortunately none of the Council's mains were affected and supplies were obtainable at some point on the mains.

For the purpose of water supply the district is divided into two areas as follows :-

- (a) The Norwich Corporation Area of supply comprising 25 parishes forming the eastern and southern parts of the district with an area of 47086 acres and containing about 85% of the population and 90% of its rateable value.
- (b) This Council's area of supply comprising 23 parishes with an area of 45919 acres but containing only 15% of the population and 10% of the rateable value of the district.

The parishes in which there are already water mains contain 93% of the whole population of the district.

At the end of the year work was about to be commenced in laying the mains in Stage II of the Western Area Water Supply Scheme, and work had been commenced on the village schemes for Heydon, Honingham and Ringland. The laying of water mains to supply the Silvergate area in the parish of Blickling was completed.

During the year mains were laid in the Norwich Corporation area of supply in the parishes of Brampton and Tuttington, and to form extensions in the parishes of Catton, Hainford, Hevingham, Horstead, Marsham, Rackheath and Taverham.

The following is a list of the parishes in the Norwich Corporation area of supply with the numbers of properties connected :-

Aylsham	1,046
Belaugh	11
Brampton	14
Buxton	247
Catton	746
Coltishall	370
Drayton	708
Frettenham	104
Hainford	169
Hellesdon	3,435
Hevingham	218
Horsford	379
Horstead	162
Marsham	200
Rackheath	440
St. Faith's	573
Salhouse	323
Spixworth	439
Stratton Strawless	20
Taverham	593
Tuttington	2
Wroxham	402
Sprowston	<u>3,873</u>
	<u>14,474</u>

The following are the number of properties connected to mains in the various parishes in the Council's area of supply :-

Attlebridge	15
Blickling/Oulton	46
Booton	15
Cawston	213
Felthorpe	80
Foulsham	211
Gt. Witchingham/Lenwade	126
Guestwick	10
Honingham	13
Reepham	331
Salle	36
Swannington	15
Themelthorpe	23
Weston Longville	29
Wood Dalling	<u>18</u>
	<u>1,181</u>

During the year 224 samples were taken of the supplies from the mains in the Council's area of supply for bacteriological examination and the following is the classification of results :-

Excellent	221
Satisfactory	1
Suspicious	1
Unsatisfactory	<u>1</u>
	224
	<u>224</u>

It is again strange that the suspicious and the unsatisfactory sample was taken from the same domestic tap, and that repeat samples gave quite satisfactory results.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 & 1959

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	42	101	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	195	243	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
	<u>237</u>	<u>344</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Cases in which defects were found :-

	<u>No. of cases in which defects were found</u>			
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>
Want of Cleanliness	4	4	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-

Outwork -

Nature of work	<u>No. of outworkers in August</u>	<u>No. of instances of work list required by Section 110 in unwholesome premises</u>
Wearing apparel making etc.	50	-
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings etc.	12	-
	<u>62</u>	<u>Nil</u>

BUILDING BYELAW & TOWN PLANNING APPROVAL

During the year 2077 plans of proposed buildings were submitted. These varied between small private garages to layouts of Building Estates. The number of inspections under the Building Byelaws was 6500. Mention has already been made that 469 private houses were completed during the year.

PETROL, ETC. STORAGE

During the year licences were issued as follows :-

Petrol Stores	...	...	...	161
Carbide Stores	...	...	...	1
Cellulose Stores	...	...	...	2
				<u>164</u>

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

During the year the Rat-catcher visited 2736 premises and treated 780 premises where rats and mice were found. The number of complaints received of infestation was 302. There was no need to take action under Statutory powers.

CONCLUSION

This is my thirty-ninth and last annual report. Both the volume and character of the work has changed since I took up this appointment. In 1925 the district comprised only the former St. Faith's Rural District which contained according to the 1921 census 2541 houses. In 1935 part of the former Aylsham Rural District was amalgamated and according to the 1931 census there were then 7660 houses in the newly constituted district. Today the houses number 16380. Again in 1925 removal of night soil in the hamlet of Lenwade was the only system of scavenging operating. Today the scavenging scheme covers the whole district.

Water mains have now been provided to supply at least 93% of the population of the district, and sewers have been provided in most of the more densely populated areas of the district.

There has been a very material improvement in the general health and welfare of the community, and the Public Health Service has made a very considerable contribution to secure this. There is a very marked decrease in the incidence of infectious disease.

A large number of unfit houses have been cleared away, and in other ways housing conditions have been vastly improved. This can be readily appreciated by those who can recall the old conditions for comparison with the brightly decorated and generally well maintained houses of today.

The Council has provided and owns 1948 houses, or roughly one out of every eight in the district, and this where many houses have been provided for families coming in from outside the district, and but for this influx of population the ratio would be very much higher.

One frequently hears criticism that progress is either negligible or too slow. Those who can and do look back over the years to the conditions which used to exist cannot fail to note and appreciate the marked and steady progress that has been made and realise the Council has achieved something that is really worth while, and has been active and progressive.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks and appreciation of the Council's support during my whole term of office, and to all members of the staff who have served with me for their valued assistance and co-operation.

I have had the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) H.S. HAWKINS

